Equipment Location – Certification Information Database (EL-CID) DoD Perspective and Issues

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Briefing Overview

- What is EL-CID?
- EL-CID Usage within the Frequency Management Offices (FMOs)
- Concerns with current edition
- EL-CID Data for Frequency Assignments
- Summary

What is EL-CID?

- Equipment Location – Certification Information Database (EL-CID): Software for collecting all parametric data for spectrum certification requests submitted to National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
- Development began in 1993 by NTIA for use in spectrum certification to the national federal regulator
- First deadline mandate scheduled for September 2005; pushed back from DoD resulted in the September 2005 deadline being delayed
- Mandated for use by Government agencies for all spectrum certification requests as of 11/1/2009
- Stand alone computer program, currently with only a small number of certified records
- Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC) Spectrum Planning Subcommittee (SPS) Working Group (WG)-5 serves as the Government agency forum for adjudicating software changes to EL-CID

EL-CID Usage within the FMOs

- **Air Force**: All Spectrum Supportability Requests (SSRequest) submitted to NTIA in EL-CID; AF requests Program Offices submit SSRequest in EL-CID or DD1494
- **Army**: All SSRequests submitted to NTIA in EL-CID; Army accept SSRequest data in any format available to Program Office
- **Coast Guard**: All SSRequests submitted to NTIA in EL-CID; Coast Guard accept SSRequest data in any format available to Program Office
- **Navy**: All SSRequests submitted to NTIA in EL-CID; Navy requests Program Office submit SSRequest in EL-CID

DoD Concerns with Current Edition

- Hard copy print outs for review not user friendly
  - Full record print : Like an outline with copious wasted space on the page; graphs for some values (such as harmonics attenuation) are of little value and increase wasted space
  - DD1494 print : Requires user to specify appropriate units (kHz/MHz or pps/kpps) to print out in a readable format. Reader unable to determine how transmitter and receiver data relate when multiple emission designators and Intermediate Frequency bandwidths are involved.
- High learning curve for data entry process
- Not Pub 8 Compliant

DoD Concerns with Current Edition

- No method for DoD to lock down records not submitted to NTIA, or records modified by the Military Communications and Electronics Board (MCEB) Frequency Panel (FP) Equipment Spectrum Guidance Permanent Working Group (ESG PWG)
- New EL-CID version anticipated each Fiscal Year increases burden of Information Assurance requirements
- WG-5 schedule not sufficient to meet DoD concerns
- Calendar Year 2010 Training Schedule not yet published

EL-CID Data for Frequency Assignments

- EL-CID records approved by the MCEB FP ESG PWG will be visible to the Frequency Assignment community through the JDAWS in the next few months
- To date NO EL-CID records have been approved by the ESG PWG as submission to NTIA only started 01 Nov 09
- Joint Spectrum Center (JSC) is working on EL-CID files for the top 5 used J/F 12 numbers in frequency assignments to start an EL-CID database ahead of the release of Spectrum XXI Online
  - Once complete, the EL-CID files will be approved by the ESG PWG for inclusion within JDAWS

Summary

- DoD met the NTIA Mandate for EL-CID usage
- FMOs using EL-CID for National SSRequests
- DoD Concerns
  - Human Readable EL-CID Output
  - Lack of DoD Authority to ensure data items not changed (lock down capability)
  - Pub 8 Compliance
- MCEB Approved EL-CID records will start populating the JDAWS database as the records are returned from NTIA or produced from existing legacy SSRequests